

del's book. We must commend the publishers for modestly hiding so many excellencies in a volume of convenient size and of three hundred pages.

The author tells us that his object "is to bring cases demonstrated at the clinic, into the general perspective of psychiatry, and to enable the student to fill up the gaps, which the clinic must necessarily omit in the limited time given."

However, it is not to the college student alone that the book is valuable, nor to the general practitioner. The specialist will find it a fruitful source of information. Indeed the last would evidence little interest in his subject were he not curious to know how Mendel divides the Psychoses or how he interprets *Dementia Precox* or what his opinion is on many a disputed point. There are too few authoritative treatises or text books on insanity to neglect any of them.

No man will agree with all that another says on Psychiatry. The tabulated facts have reached no final arrangement. The interpretation and classification of to-day may be discredited to-morrow. However, until better times come, we must have books which will lead us to a correct diagnosis in the majority of cases and we know of no other book which can more efficiently guide us than the one under review. The amount of material which the volume contains is most extensive—the definitions and descriptions are charmingly concise, yet adequate—the order and proportion admirable. In the Supplement is "a guide for the examination of one mentally diseased, and for the preparation of the clinical history," which is in keeping with the high character of the rest of the book.

We can not speak too well of this "The Text-Book of Psychiatry." We remember Mendel as a kindly man, a keen observer and a great teacher. He came into the world, he did his work well and his work is over.

M. L.

A Study of the Human Blood-vessels in Health and Disease. A Supplement to "The Origin of Disease." By Arthur V. Meigs, M. D., Physician to the Pennsylvania Hospital. J. B. Lippincott Company, 1907.

This is a well printed and attractive book of about one hundred and thirty pages, the most striking feature of which is its collection of excellent pictures. It is not an exhaustive treatise, nor does it make such pretension, but is rather a collection of personal observations, and consequently reflects the author's personality to a much more marked extent than does the usual medical book. In this instance the reader is gainer by such a condition, as the frankly personal opinions have the tone of good sense, independence and scientific spirit, and withal a healthy rebelliousness toward taking things for granted simply because they have been taught generally. On no subject that forms the content of a chapter is the discussion either orderly or complete. The study is interesting and suggestive in every instance rather than conclusive, and while it can not serve as a text book, its frank outlook and creditable freedom from conventional shackles, and most of all its good pictures make it a valuable adjunct (or possibly antidote) to the regular text book. The subject of the blood-vessels is attacked in a narrow manner, the observations being almost solely of a purely histological nature. In doubtful places one misses entirely the evidence that embryology or experiment would bring. In this respect the main weakness of the book is apparent, and on this account it lacks conclusiveness.

The remarks on the capillaries are fresh, suggestive and valuable, but the section on new vessels falls far short on account of the total lack of the

strong light that embryology would throw on the subject; neither has the research been orderly or sufficient. The opinions advanced by the author are based merely on isolated histological pictures that he has stumbled upon and may be right or wrong.

Under the heading "The Blood-vessels in Disease," the opinion is expressed that there is no lesion of the blood-vessels peculiar to each of the processes, inflammation, tuberculosis or syphilis, and little import is attached to the usually recognized pathological entity, syphilitic endarteritis. Under the discussion of arteriosclerosis, it is suggested that apoplexy may often come from the perforation of round ulcers of the vessel wall, analogous to perforations of stomach and intestinal ulcers. This idea is rather striking, when one thinks of the frequency of miliary aneurisms in the vessels of the brain, in cases dying of cerebral apoplexy. In the same chapter, however, the frequency of chalky deposits and stiffening of the arterial walls is admitted. No etiological factor for the vascular ulcers is suggested, but the recent experimental production of gastric ulcers by feeding colon bacilli, suggests to the reviewer the possibility of an infectious origin of such lesions.

In the discussion of vessels of the heart there has been no addition made to our present knowledge. The well-known terminal character of the vessels and the fact that the muscle cells are penetrated by capillaries is reiterated and good illustrations are given. Great stress is laid on the author's observation that the intima of the vessels is often found greatly thickened even in young people.

The section on the lungs is quite barren of new facts and that on the spleen admittedly inconclusive, the bare statement being made that its blood-vessels are prone to endarteritis. In the main the book is valuable chiefly because it is rather suggestive. Its barrenness is due chiefly to its reflecting the barren state of the knowledge we have of the blood-vessels, rather than to any fault of its own.

C. B.

Pulmonary Tuberculosis. By Francis M. Pottenger, A. M. M. D., Monrovia, Cal. Wm. Wood & Co., 1908.

The work of Dr. Pottenger, which recently appeared from the press of Wm. Wood & Co., is, of the large number of books which have of late appeared on this subject, probably the most important one which has been written in the English language. From the wealth of clinical material over which he has command, he has culled a store-house of valuable information, which has been carefully compiled and arranged into a most practicable text-book. A description of the various chapters, many of which contain much original material, would be impossible within the brief limits of a review. Those on diagnosis and treatment are, however, of such importance as to demand more than passing notice.

The author has endeavored to give a full discussion of early and late diagnosis, and very thoroughly goes into an explanation of the cause of symptoms and the rationale of the physical signs. Methods of examination for the recognition of early signs are given the importance they deserve, which feature alone makes the work one of peculiar value, coming at a time when the necessity of earlier recognition of tuberculosis is so generally admitted.

In the discussion on the bacillus he describes the "splitter" or spore form, to which attention has been called by Spengler, and explains its staining characteristics. Methods of staining in order to differentiate between the human and bovine bacillus are also described, which is of the utmost importance, if recent observations in tuberculosis therapy shall have acceptance.

In the chapters on treatment, the importance of diet, rest and exercise, hygiene, fresh air, hydro-

therapy, etc., are thoroughly discussed; the advantages of sanatorium treatment are reviewed dispassionately and clearly; and these are all given their true value, as means by which the natural immunizing processes of the body are brought into activity.

The chapter on Specific Treatment has been written in the light of modern studies on immunity, and in it the author clearly demonstrates that cure in tuberculosis must be wrought by measures which are directed against the cause of the disease—the micro-organism; that it is accomplished through the establishment of immunity on the part of the patient to the tubercle bacillus and its toxins. The action of tuberculin as a means of artificially stimulating the machinery of immunization is exhaustively discussed, and the theories on which have been built our present day conception of tuberculin therapy are explained. The author is exceptionally qualified to discuss this subject by reason of his great experience with these remedies and his unusual opportunities for careful clinical investigation.

The chapter on Displacement of the Thoracic Viscera in Advanced Pulmonary Tuberculosis is most instructive; and his observations on the effect of advanced tuberculosis on the heart, much more complete than those found in the usual text-book. It is to be regretted that the author did not write a chapter on pathology.

His description of the preparation of some of the forms of tuberculin is open to criticism, particularly T. R., for its preparation is much more complicated than his description would suggest. The reviewer would also submit that its administration can not be carried out by such a regularly interspersed plan of dosage as is described. The intelligent and successful use of tuberculin is only accomplished as the result of careful observation and clinical experience, and while the administration of five milligrams of T. R., or more as the author recommends, might be a perfectly safe procedure in his hands, it might be fraught with grave and fatal danger in the hands of one not accustomed to its use. The rapidity with which tuberculin is springing into favor in all quarters is, the reviewer fears, going to react to its discredit, because of the abuses to which it must inevitably be put by those untrained in its use, and not conversant with the later theories of immunity.

The work throughout is annotated with marginal notes, which to many will be a convenience. Dr. Pottenger's book should find a place in the library of every progressive physician. G. H. E.

ARMY MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS, 1908.

The Act of April 23, 1908, reorganizing the Medical Corps of the Army, gives an increase in that Corps of six colonels, twelve lieutenant-colonels, forty-five majors, and sixty captains or first lieutenants, and establishes a Medical Reserve Corps as an adjunct to the Medical Corps. Under this recent act, the lieutenants of the Medical Corps are promoted to captain after three years' service instead of five, and the increase in the higher grades insures promotion at a reasonable rate all through an officer's military career. Furthermore, applicants who are found qualified in the preliminary examination are appointed first lieutenants of the Medical Reserve Corps and ordered to the Army Medical School in Washington, D. C., for eight months' instruction.

Preliminary examination for appointment in the Medical Corps will be held on August 3, 1908, and formal applications should be in possession of the War Department prior to July 1st. The applicant must be a citizen of the United States, between twenty-two and thirty years of age, a graduate of a medical school legally authorized to confer the degree of doctor of medicine, of good moral character

and habits, and must have had at least one year's hospital training or its equivalent in practice. The examination will be held concurrently throughout the country at points where boards can conveniently be assembled, and due consideration will be given to the localities from which applications are received, in order to lessen the traveling expenses of applicants as much as possible.

The examination in subjects of general preliminary education may be omitted in the case of applicants holding diplomas from reputable literary or scientific colleges, normal schools or high schools, or graduates of medical schools which require an entrance examination satisfactory to the faculty of the Army Medical School.

The large number of vacancies created in the Medical Corps by recent legislation makes it certain that all successful candidates will be recommended for a commission for several years to come.

It is desired to obtain and maintain a list of qualified medical men all over the country who are willing to serve as medical officers in time of emergency, and to such men the President is authorized to issue commissions as First Lieutenants, Medical Reserve Corps. It is recognized that it will be necessary to place only a limited number of these officers on the active list in time of peace, and it is hoped that young medical men throughout the country and medical officers of the militia of the various States may be sufficiently interested to secure positions on the Medical Reserve Corps list.

An applicant must be between twenty-two and forty-five years of age, a citizen of the United States, a graduate of a reputable medical school legally authorized to confer the degree of doctor of medicine, and must have qualified to practice medicine in the State in which he resides. Examinations will be held in the near future and will embrace the practical medical subjects.

Full information concerning the Medical Corps and the Medical Reserve Corps may be procured upon application to the Surgeon-General, U. S. Army, Washington, D. C.

NEW AND NON-OFFICIAL REMEDIES.

The following articles have been added to the list of New and Non-Official Remedies approved by the Council on Pharmacy and Chemistry:

Lecithin Solution (Fairchild Bros. & Foster).
Lecibrin (Fairchild Bros. & Foster).
Glycerole Lecithin (Fairchild Bros. & Foster).
Casca-Laxative (H. K. Mulford Co.)
Bismuth Hydrate Comp. (H. K. Wampole & Co.)
Liquor Sedans (Parke, Davis & Co.)
Liquor Sedans Rx2 without Sugar (Parke, Davis & Co.)
Liquor Sedans with Cascara (Parke, Davis & Co.)

CHICAGO MEETING OF THE A. M. A.

The fifty-ninth annual session of the American Medical Association was held in Chicago, June 2 to 5. For the first time since the St. Paul meeting in 1901 the association met in the center of the country. To this fact, as well as to the greatly increased membership in the last few years is due the large attendance. The registration office opened at 8:30 on Monday morning, and it was apparent almost from the start that all previous records of attendance would be broken. In the four days of the session 6447 members were registered. Including those Chicago members who did not register, there were at least 500 in attendance whose names do not appear on the registration list. The actual attendance would not fall far short of 7000. Adding at least 10,000 guests, exhibitors, etc., makes the actual number of persons in attendance about 17,000. The general headquarters